

a first chassis member mounting the circuit board, and a second chassis member fixed on the backside of the plasma display panel. A plurality of support portions are provided between the first and second chassis members for supporting the two chassis members and for forming a predetermined interval between the two chassis members.

In making this rejection, the Office Action took the position that Morita discloses all of the elements of the claimed invention. However, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the structure of the claimed invention, and therefore, fails to provide the advantages of the present invention. For example, the plasma display apparatus of the present invention is configured to include a plurality of support portions provided between the first and second chassis members, the support portions forming a predetermined interval in between.

As a result of the claimed configuration, by virtue of the predetermined interval and support portions, the total area for heat radiation becomes larger, thereby making it possible to obtain an improved heat radiation effect and sufficient support strength.

Morita discloses a plasma display panel 100 mounted with its front surface facing outward through an opening 70a in the front of a cabinet 70. As shown in Figure 4, the opening 70a is covered by a plate formed from a transparent material. The heat sinking unit 2 is mounted on the outside faces of outer edge portions 44, contacting the inner faces of the side portions of the cabinet 70. The arrays of fins 211 extend in a vertical direction of the PDP 100. The ends of fins 211 contact the rear panel of the cabinet 70, and heat conduction paths are formed from PDP 100 to the cabinet 70 through fins 211. The height of the fins 211 and the outer edge portions 44 are arranged such that the ends of the fins 211 extrude outwardly of the extruding ends of the outer edge portions

44. A finned external heat sinking unit 140 is mounted on the back surface of the cabinet so that the heat from PDP 100 can be transferred through fins 211 and dissipated. The finned external heat sinking unit 140 is mounted so as to increase the heat dissipating area of the cabinet 70, so that the fins make rows in the vertical direction of cabinet 70. The rear panel of the cabinet 70 may also be shaped in the form of a net or grating to increase the venting area.

The Office Action asserted that in Morita, joining portion 221 is equivalent to the first chassis member of the present invention, and the finned external heat sinking unit 140 is equivalent to the second chassis member of the present invention. The Office Action further asserted that the heat radiation fins 211 are equivalent to the support portions provided between the first and second chassis members of the present invention.

However, in Morita, although the joining portion 221 can support the backside of the panel, the finned external heat sinking unit 140 is attached only on the backside of the cabinet accommodating the panel and the joining portion 221. As a result, it is difficult to ensure a sufficient rigidity for the plasma display apparatus.

In contrast, the plasma display apparatus of the present invention has a chassis structure that includes first and second chassis members connected by a plurality of support portions; thereby ensuring a desired heat radiation, as well as a required rigidity for the plasma display apparatus.

Therefore, as discussed above, Morita fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of support portions provided between the first and second chassis members for supporting the two chassis members and for forming a predetermined interval between the two

chassis members, as recited in claim 1. Morita also fails to disclose or suggest a chassis structure where the first chassis member mounts a circuit board, and the second chassis member is fixed on the backside of the plasma display panel, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, because Morita's joining portion 221 has a plurality of thin-wall portions 22 (see Fig. 7A), it is impossible for the structure of Morita to provide a sufficient rigidity, which is a benefit of the plasma display apparatus of the present invention.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the Applicants' invention, as set forth in claim 1 is not anticipated within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Additionally, as claims 2-5 depend directly or indirectly on claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims incorporate the patentable aspects thereof, and are therefore allowable for at least same reasons as discussed above.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's newly-cited reference of Morita fails to disclose or suggest the plasma display panel claimed in claim 1 of the present invention.

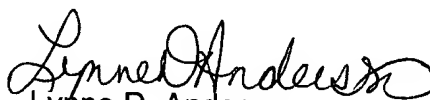
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, allowance of claims 1-5, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

If this application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing docket number 107156-00067.

Respectfully submitted,

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